



MESSAGE FROM PROFESSOR J. CHENG

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As one of the past Presidents of the HKSSH. I am really proud to join in the celebration of the 10th anniversary of our Society. Ten years is not a short period at all. The society would not have grown to its international status without the dedicated contribution of all the past and present Presidents, Council members and the enthusiastic support of all our members.

Looking back, special tribute should be paid to the two well recognized pioneers of hand surgery in Hong Kong, Professor PC Leung and Professor SP Chow. For it was really through their efforts and hardwork that the subspecialty of Hand Surgery was established in Hong Kong in the late 70's.

Under their guidance Hong Kong was proud to host the First WPOA Hand Surgery Sectional Meeting in 1984. The Hong Kong Society for Surgery of the Hand was then founded in 1986 and immediately hosted the post Tokyo IFSSH Congress meeting in Hong Kong in the same year. Since then the linkage of the HKSSH with regional hand centers of the Asian Pacific region,

China and oversea centers was well established and continue to grow.

The founding of the Asian Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand on January 19, 1995 was a significant step forward for the Federation now not only include orthopaedic surgeons but also plastic surgeons interested in the field of Hand Surgery. The special Federation journal 'Hand Surgery' now provides an excellent ground for exchanges within the Asian Pacific region.

I think in the past Hong Kong has been well known internationally particularly in the treatment of hand injury, replantations and microvascular hand reconstruction. The step forward for the local hand surgeons is to further diversify and aim at more depth and quality of care within the broad discipline of hand surgery.

I am confident that with the excellent leadership of the current and future councils the HKSSH would grow from strength to strength into the 21st century.